Requesting an Alternative to Video Evidence: Guidelines and Instructions

Guidelines

A video recording is the most authentic evidence of a candidate's instruction. However, teacher candidates may encounter situations in which the setting or reason prohibits video recording due to safety or security concerns or other factors that inhibit the candidate from collecting evidence for Task 2, Part A video evidence as directed in the edTPA Submissions Requirements.

The following have been identified as settings and reasons for which candidates may need to collect **alternative to video evidence** for Task 2, Part A:

- Any setting where a candidate has a concern for his/her personal safety
- Hospitals
- Juvenile correctional facilities or court schools
- Military base classrooms
- Psychiatric facilities
- Religious reasons
- Special education settings
- Virtual learning environments (VLE)
    - Important Note: Some schools or school districts may have established a policy that will not allow students' faces to be shown/recorded in the virtual learning environment. In **most** cases, emojis, avatars, thumbnails, etc. will be considered as acceptable forms of evidence for the Task 2 video(s), and the teacher candidate **DOES NOT** need to request an alternative to video evidence. However, for learning goals that require students to perform, demonstrate, etc., (e.g., physical education), students must be seen.

If it is determined that alternative evidence is required because of one of the settings or reason noted above, educator preparation programs (EPPs) or building level administrators (for unaffiliated candidates) should work with their candidate to:

- Review the instructions below (see p. 2) to determine if the alternative evidence in fulfillment of the Task 2 Part A is appropriate and viable for both the candidate and P–12 learners.
- Determine if the setting or reason will allow the teacher candidate to capture synchronous, authentic evidence of instruction for Task 2, to be scored according to the edTPA rubrics.

*Note: These reasons do not include settings in districts that **prefer** to not allow video recording in their classrooms but have policies expressly prohibiting video recording.*

Verification for Candidate to Submit Alternative to Video Evidence

After determining alternative evidence is required because the candidate is unable to complete edTPA Task 2/Part A video recording due to one of the settings or reason noted above, EPPs or building level administrators (for unaffiliated candidates) should:

- Download and complete the Excel file [EPP Verification for Alternative Evidence](#) in fulfillment of edTPA TASK 2, PART A. Please note that information for both tabs of the Excel file must be completed.
- Submit the form to edTPA EPP Support at [edTPAEPPSupport@pearson.com.](#)

Once verification has been obtained to submit alternative to video evidence, edTPA EPP Support will notify the candidate and send the form 'REQUEST TO SUBMIT ALTERNATIVE TO VIDEO EVIDENCE' in fulfillment of edTPA Task 2, Part A.

For more information, the guidelines and instructions can be found on pp. 2–4.

Instructions

Candidates should follow all directions in their edTPA subject-specific handbook WITH THE SOLE EXCEPTION of the directions for submitting a video recording. Instead of a video recording, candidates should also follow applicable considerations and requirements listed below. Please note that these considerations and requirements are only applicable to candidates whose EPPs or building level administrators (for unaffiliated candidates) have verified their candidates' ability to capture alternative to video by submitting the required form (see p. 1, **Verification for Candidate to Submit Alternative to Video Evidence**, for how to request the verification form).

Once verification has been obtained to submit alternative to video evidence, edTPA EPP Support will notify the candidate and send the form 'REQUEST TO SUBMIT ALTERNATIVE TO VIDEO EVIDENCE' in fulfillment of edTPA Task 2, Part A. Candidates must complete the request form as soon as possible but a minimum of TWO WEEKS to submitting their edTPA portfolio to ensure their request has been reviewed and appropriate approval notification has been sent in a timely manner to score the alternative to video evidence for Task 2, Part A. Upon approval, candidates will receive a notification from [edTPA Customer Support](#) with instructions for submitting the alternative to video evidence.

Considerations and Requirements

There are two acceptable types of evidence candidates can choose from as their alternative to video evidence:

1. audio recording
   OR
2. written transcript

The information listed below provides considerations and requirements for candidates to follow when capturing alternative evidence for Task 2, Part A. Candidates should be aware that if they submit this type of alternative evidence for their Task 2, Part A submission, without verification from the EPP or building level administrator and edTPA approval, the evidence will not be scored.

Evidence Type #1: Audio Recording

Audio recording should be used when the majority (if not all) of the interaction is verbal.

*Important Note: Audio recording will not capture significant evidence of instruction for lesson objectives in some curricular areas, (e.g., motor skills, where the candidate provides physical demonstrations and/or support). Candidates should apply the handbook guidelines in Task 2 and in the Task 2: Evidence Chart (located in the back of the edTPA handbook) to determine if collecting an audio recording for Task 2, Part A is a viable option.

If an audio recording is a viable option, candidates should follow the instructions listed below when capturing audio evidence.

- The 1–2 audio clips should be of continuous instruction and together should total no more than 20 minutes.
- In the case where portions of the audio recording are difficult to understand, candidates should follow directions for inaudible portions of video recordings in the *What Do I Need to Do?* section of Task 2 in their edTPA handbook.
- Candidates should consider if there is additional visual evidence needed to understand the instruction on the audio recording, and include such evidence (e.g., instructional materials, writing on board or overhead) to the end of the Instruction commentary.

Submitting Audio Files for Task 2 Part A

- Candidates should refer to the *Artifacts and Commentary Specifications* table in the edTPA handbook for supported file types for Task 2 Part A.

When naming each clip file, include the number of the lesson shown in the audio clip.

Evidence Type #2: Written Transcript

A written transcript should be provided if audio recordings are either prohibited by the setting or reason or are not appropriate for the lesson objectives. The candidate should submit scripted evidence of candidate-learner interactions, **with times indicated every five minutes**, for 1–2 lessons.

- The scripting should be done by a scribe familiar with the technique of scripting a lesson observation.
- The scribe should be familiar with Instruction rubrics 6–9 and capture specific evidence of what the candidate and learners are doing with respect to what is measured in the rubrics, taking care to capture learner-initiated interactions and responses to instruction.
- The script should be detailed enough for a scorer to understand what the candidate and learner(s) are doing with respect to the lesson objectives. If the script is not detailed enough to provide evidence of the competencies measured by the rubrics, then either a low score due to lack of evidence or a condition code instead of a score will be assigned. See the rubrics in the handbooks and the short summary below for the type of evidence required for scoring.

Evidence Required for Scoring

- The script should include only dialogue and specific descriptions of candidate and learner actions and dialogue. The script may not include evaluations, judgments, or opinions. For example, the script should quote "Today we're going to learn about how to simplify expressions using exponents. Does anyone remember what an exponent is?" and should NOT state "Candidate did a good job engaging the learners."
- The scribe can take notes using abbreviations and shortly after the lesson, expand the notes into readable text.
- The scribe should provide a text file with the scripted lesson(s) to the candidate. The candidate will provide time stamps to indicate 1–2 continuous excerpts from the lesson script(s), totaling no more than 20 minutes, to be read as evidence of instruction by scorers. Candidates should submit the entire text file. The scorers will read only the excerpts indicated.

Submitting Written Transcript/Text Files for Task 2 Part A

- Candidates who are approved to submit a written transcript as alternative evidence for Task 2 Part A may submit the following file types:
  - doc
  - docx
  - odt
  - pdf
- These file types are in addition to the supported file types as listed in the *Artifacts and Commentary* Specifications table in the edTPA handbooks.
- When naming each file, include the number of the scripted lesson included in the written transcript.

Contact Us

If educator preparation programs or building level administrators (for unaffiliated candidates) have questions about these procedures, they may contact edTPA Educator Preparation Program Support at edTPAEPPSupport@pearson.com. Candidates should contact Pearson Customer Support with questions. Support contact information can be found at the Contact Us page on the edTPA website.